

July 16, 2010

congressman  
**ROBERT BRADY**  
serving pennsylvania's first district

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## The Brady Brief - Helping Our Nation's Veterans

Dear Friend,

On Monday, the Obama Administration announced new regulations by the Department of Veterans Affairs to make it easier for our nation's veterans suffering with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to receive critical health and disability benefits and treatment. Previously, veterans had to undergo lengthy investigations in order to apply for disability benefits for PTSD. The Veterans Administration (VA) required extensive documentation of the specific cause of the disorder in addition to a doctor's diagnosis, and ultimately denied benefits to thousands of veterans who were unable to document their experiences. The new reforms will simplify the process, requiring a VA doctor's diagnosis for veterans who served in a combat zone.

I applaud the Veteran's Administration's new plan because it builds on Congress' commitment to care for and honor America's servicemen and women, their families and our veterans. The following list outlines the major steps Congress has taken to help our veterans and service members, but for more information, please visit [my website](#).

- Providing returning troops with education and employment opportunities
- Investing in veterans' health care and providing that funding one year in advance to prevent political or legislative delays
- Increasing military pay and expanding economic opportunities for returning service members
- Providing family leave and financial support for those who care for wounded veterans
- Enhancing health services for the 1.8 million women veterans

In addition to supporting all of these pieces of legislation, I introduced the Credit Protection for Heroes Act. This bill enhances the protection of credit ratings of active duty military personnel who are activated for military service. I will continue working for this bill's passage. I also recently hired a veteran through the House of Representatives Wounded Warrior program to work in my Philadelphia office. Bradley Herron served in the Army as an Airborne Infantryman in Iraq and Afghanistan. He also participated in over 75 search, rescue, and evacuation events in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. Following that tour he served as an Army recruiter. Most recently, he gained Veteran's Benefits experience helping vets use the GI Bill at Montgomery County Community College, all while earning an Associate's Degree. Mr. Herron's extensive experience gives him the perspective and



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understanding to help veterans and service members in my district. A number of resources are available to service members, both active and retired. For more information on these benefits and resources please contact my Philadelphia office at 215-389-4627.

Sincerely,



Robert Brady  
Member of Congress

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